

THE UNDERWRITERS' ACT

Resolutions Adopted Regarding Electric Lighting.

W. I. WARRINER, INSPECTOR.

All Buildings in Which Electricity Is Used Must Be Examined by the Inspector—No Insurance Taken Until Reported On.

Ever since the fire at the Opera House there has been a feeling of uncertainty about some of the buildings in Honolulu which had been wired for electric lighting; not that it had been decided that the fire there was the result of defective wiring, but such a rumor was floating around and people have been timid about electric lights ever since.

The scare was communicated to the agents of the various insurance companies here, as one of them immediately set to work to have an inspector of buildings appointed, someone whose duty it would be to pass upon the wiring of buildings, whether the work is done by the Electric Light Company or private individuals. After some time the Board of Underwriters appointed a committee and the following suggestions were made to the Board:

We recommend that a known electrician resident in Honolulu be appointed Electrical Inspector by and for the Board, and as an officer of the Board to serve for one year, and year by year, subject to the election of the Board. We recommend for such appointment, Willard I. Warriner.

That the rules to be followed by such Electric Inspector shall be those of the National Code of Rules for installation of wiring and apparatus, as recommended by the Underwriters International Electrical Association and adopted by the Pacific Insurance Union and the Honolulu Board of Underwriters. That, to facilitate the inspection and for record with the secretary of the Honolulu Board of Underwriters, the Electrical Inspector shall fill up a form, which form after consultation shall cover all matters pertaining to the building and the arrangement of the wires. All that is essential in the premises was embodied in the paper and with the assistance of Mr. Warriner it was made complete.

The committee recommend that when a policy falls due, insured in a company having a representative here the inspector shall be requested by the secretary of the Board of Underwriters to make an examination of the premises and report upon the condition to the secretary and report to the applying agent, as well as all other members of the Board provided the report of the inspector warrants it, that the electrical system in the building examined and is acceptable or otherwise as the case may be.

The payment for all electrical inspection as proposed in this report, be made by the secretary to the inspector on the latter's filing his report in each instance of inspection and that such amounts be charged as an expense of the Board to be ultimately met by the periodical assessments levied on the members of the Board. It was intended originally that a portion of the expense should be met by the assured, but it was decided that it was best that the Board bear it all rather than cause dissatisfaction among the policy holders. The matter of payment of this expense was left for discussion before the full Board.

The committee's report was adopted by the Board and Mr. Warriner appointed.

DR. COOK DIDN'T KNOW.

He Writes to Mr. Bishop Concerning July 4th Affair.

MR. EDITOR:—The following extracts from a letter of Joseph Cook, L.L.D., the eminent lecturer, will explain themselves:

MELBOURNE, Sept. 25, 1895. The Rev. Sereno Bishop, Honolulu, H. I.

Dear Sir: I thank you cordially for your article in The Independent of August 15th, which reached me only a few days ago.

It never entered my thoughts until I read the statement last week in your article that references to Hawaiian politics were excluded from your celebration by agreement between the committee in charge and the chairman. The committee never told me this—no one else did so. I was in California when the agreement which you mention was made.

I owe much to the generosity and sagacity of His Honor the Chief Jus-

tice, and should be sorry to have him blamed at all in this affair. He had discussed Hawaiian matters freely with me, but was in no way responsible for a syllable of my speech. Certain suggestions which he quoted days before from various quarters as to what it might and might not be proper to say, I had treated rather humorously, by asking if some one would write out a safe speech for me to memorize and deliver, and he had joined with me in appreciation of the absurdity of trying to wear a straight-waistcoat on July 4th, when defending, as I intended to do, in their application to the Republic, the principles of the American Declaration of Independence, which was to be read from the platform.

With high respects,
Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH COOK.

Dr. Cook also states that he was at the time wholly ignorant of the State home the American Minister, or of his official record in Honolulu. Knowing those now, he wonders that his interruption was not even more emphatic. Dr. Cook's ignorance of the attendant circumstances of the occasion, as above avowed, would seem to exculpate him from the censure bestowed upon him at the time.—S. E. B.

POLICE COURT.

The case of F. H. Mendenhall, the young gentleman who came from San Francisco on the last Australia expecting to "do the pretty" on the money of others, came up for trial in the police court yesterday morning. While Mendenhall stood listening to the charges preferred against him, he moved about uneasily with his eyes cast upon the ground. The defendant pleaded guilty and the case proceeded.

John Buckley, the only witness, testified as to the bogus check handed him by Mendenhall. On October 8th he gave him a check on Spreckels & Co., bankers, to the amount of \$20. To all appearances it was perfectly genuine. Buckley said he knew the young man had recently arrived from the Coast and supposed he had money. He was mistaken in this, however. On the morning of October 9th Mendenhall called and handed him \$10, saying he would pay the other \$10 in the afternoon; told him not to present the check for payment. The afternoon arrived and no Mendenhall appeared. On the morning of the 10th Buckley took the check to Spreckels & Co. and there found it was useless. Returning to Mendenhall's room Buckley found the young man at home. He said he wished to make things right and handed him his watch. A bill of sale was made out and the watch handed over after Buckley had given him \$6. Mendenhall said he wanted to go to Kauai.

Mendenhall asked Buckley if he did not try to make things straight with him, to which the defendant received a reply in the affirmative.

On being asked if he had anything to say for himself Mendenhall replied to the question of the judge:

"Your Honor, I leave my case with the Court. I am a stranger in a strange land and am placed in very unfortunate circumstances. I have nothing more to say."

Judge Perry decided that the case was one of gross cheat in the first degree and not within the jurisdiction of the District Court. Mendenhall was committed to the Circuit Court.

The Aeromotor.

The Hawaiian Hardware Company call attention in another column to the superiority of the aeromotor over all other makes of windmills. A point claimed by the makers of the aeromotor is that every contrivance, every invention that is applicable to windmills and which will improve any part of the machinery has been adopted by them. The theory regarding graphite bearings was exploded long ago, its practicability has never been demonstrated. If the graphite box could be used for such purposes, railway companies would have adopted it long ago. The aeromotor has been in use in the islands for more than five years and is a success. There are more of them in operation than any other make; its superiority has been proven many times.

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CHANGE IN CABINET.

Minister Hatch Consents to Go to Washington.

JUDGE COOPER MAY BE CALLED.

To Fill Position of Minister of Foreign Affairs—Minister Castle to Return in December—Possibilities in Event of Judge Cooper's Appointment.

"I have given the Executive to understand that I am ready to go to Washington when the time comes." This is Minister Hatch's reply to the report that he will be appointed Minister to Washington to succeed Minister Castle, whose resignation will probably be received some time next month.

Since the return of ex-Minister Thurston, Mr. Hatch has been looked upon as a prominent candidate for the position. Particularly was this true when W. R. Castle accepted the appointment to Washington on condition that he should be relieved the latter part of the year.

Mr. Hatch will leave for the Coast on the Australia of November 20th or the Coptic of November 28th, arranging his departure if possible so as to meet Minister Castle in Washington. If this plan is carried out, he will be in Washington early in the coming session of Congress, when it is generally supposed that the matter of annexation will demand considerable attention.

As to Mr. Hatch's successor in the Cabinet the name of Judge H. E. Cooper has been brought into prominence. Ex-Minister Thurston has also been named, but he has been active in politics for some ten years past and having returned to his law practice is strongly inclined to continue in his capacity as a private citizen. The selection of Judge Cooper is, in the words of one who ought to know a "highly probable probability." Judge Cooper was born in Indiana but spent the greater part of his younger days in the city of Boston. He came to this country in June of 1890 from Southern California. He was a prominent and active worker in the stirring days of 1893; was a member of the committee of safety and was among the first to enter the Government building at the time of the overthrow of the monarchy. Later in the year he was appointed judge of the Circuit Court, which position he now holds. While the position now held by Judge Cooper is very much to his liking, it is generally believed that he will accept the call to the cabinet if such action appears to be the duty of the hour.

In event of his becoming Minister of Foreign Affairs the names of A. G. M. Robertson, Cecil Brown and J. Alfred Magoon have been suggested as among the probable candidates for his position on the bench.

The electric lights at Kawaiahao church were turned on for the first time Saturday night. The trial was an immense success and Kawaiahao can well boast of one of the best lighted interiors in the city.

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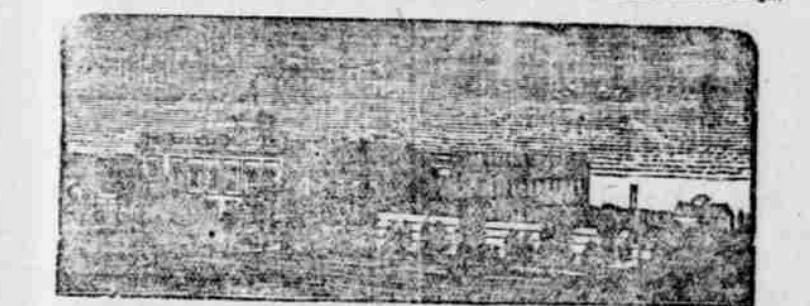
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